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January 19. Lecture by Dr. G. A. Rex, "Illustrations of the Genus Stilbum."

February 16. Lecture by Dr. W. X. Sudduth, upon "The Comma Bacillus;" exhibition by Messrs. Queen & Co. of Bacteria.

March 16. By Mr. Harold Wingate, upon "The Lens of the Triton."

April 6. By J. Bernard Brinton, upon "Opaque Mounting."

April 20. By Dr. J. Brewer Hall, upon "A Species of Ochlea."

May 4. By Dr. Benjamin Sharp, upon "The Eyes of the Pecten."

A microscopical exhibition was given to the public upon the evening of Thursday, December 3. It was attended by a large and appreciative company.

Very respectfully,

ROBT. J. HESS, M. D.,

*Recorder.*

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#### REPORT OF THE CONCHOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Recorder of the Conchological Section respectfully reports that during the past year the Academy has continued to publish for the Section such papers on Conchology as have been presented. No new members or correspondents have been elected, neither has there been any change in the by-laws. Mr. Tryon, Conservator, reports as follows:—

"During the year there has been a marked increase over any recent one in the additions to our Museum. Sixty donations and purchases have been received from forty-four persons. The number of trays and labels added to the collection is 1484, of specimens 7237.

"The Conchological Museum now contains 43,932 trays and written tablets, and 158,352 specimens.

"A detailed list of the accessions for 1885 is hereunto subjoined. (See Additions to Museum.)

"A circular was issued early in the year soliciting collections of shells from localities not represented in our Museum. Numer-

ous offers were received in response, and from them a number of selections have been made which have greatly enriched our geographical and varietal suites. The Singapore series (referred to in the last annual report) has been completed by Mr. Archer; Messrs. Bailey, Bedwall, Dupuy and Marie have added suites from Australia and New Caledonia; interesting collections from England, France and Sicily have been received from a number of collectors; our Florida series has been greatly enlarged by an important invoice from Mr. Henry Hemphill, who has spent two winters in dredging on the west coast of that State, and from other sources; many other American suites and specimens have been obtained, including particularly, a very fine suite of the shells of Philadelphia, presented by Mr. John Ford, and exhibited in our collection illustrative of Pennsylvania and New Jersey natural history.

“The additions for the year have all been labelled and mounted, mainly by Mr. Frank Stout, who has very satisfactorily performed this duty.

“The work of redetermining and arranging the collection, which goes on in connection with the publication of monographs of the genera in the ‘Manual of Conchology,’ progresses. The Cassididæ, Doliidæ, Ovulidæ, Strombidæ, Naticidæ, Vitrinidæ, Limacidæ, and a portion of the Zonitidæ, have thus been carefully studied by your conservator, and the Cypræidæ by Mr. S. R. Roberts.

“In the last report attention was called to the overcrowding of the shell cases, as seriously interfering with the exhibition of all the species to the public. Having recently secured the assistance of Mr. Wm. B. Marshall, an enthusiastic student of conchology, your conservator has been able to commence the realization of plans, long since matured, by which this overcrowding will be remedied. All duplicates will be removed from the cases to the drawers under them, where they will be rearranged to constitute what may be called the Geographical Collection, illustrative of the distribution and variation of the several species. Part of the space thus gained in the cases will be occupied by colored figures (from the ‘Manual of Conchology’) of all the species of which we have no specimens. These figures, mounted and labeled like the specimens, will, together with the latter, represent all the species and varieties of shells and mollusks known to

science, so far as they have been figured. In addition to these, a third, to be known as the Synoptical Collection, and introductory to the others, is intended to contain representatives of all the recent, and the most important of the fossil genera and subgenera, with printed labels, including the name, description, distribution, synonymy, etc. Figures of the animals, lingual dentition and other details are being added to make this series more complete.

"Enough has been accomplished to give a fair idea of the practical working of these plans; to complete them will require the labor of perhaps ten or twelve years.

"To enumerate them in order, the Conchological Cabinet of the Academy will consist of five distinct series or collections, so arranged as to facilitate comparison from one to another, yet each fully equipped for separate study, as follows: 1, Synoptical Collection, contained in table cases; 2, Alcoholic Collection, in wall cases (recently rearranged by Mr. Marshall); 3, Systematic Collection, in table cases; and in the drawers under these, 4, Geographical Collection, and 5, the Swift Collection, given to the Academy upon condition that it be kept intact."

The officers of the section are :—

<i>Director,</i>	.	.	.	W. S. W. Ruschenberger, M. D.
<i>Vice-Director,</i>	.	.	.	John Ford.
<i>Recorder,</i>	.	.	.	S. Raymond Roberts.
<i>Secretary,</i>	.	.	.	John H. Redfield.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	.	.	.	Wm. L. Mactier.
<i>Conservator,</i>	.	.	.	George W. Tryon, Jr.
<i>Librarian,</i>	.	.	.	Edward J. Nolan, M. D.

Respectfully submitted, by

S. RAYMOND ROBERTS,  
*Recorder.*

#### REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Recorder of the Entomological Section respectfully reports that nine meetings of the Section have been held during the past year. An increased interest in the proceedings of the Section has been shown by a larger average attendance at the meetings.